

HARRY SONTAG

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MR. SONTAG: Thank you.

My name is Harry Sontag. You can tell I served in the military. At one time, I was stationed at Oxnard, California right next to the Port Hueneme. One day I get a call from my wife. This is 1955. She says, "I don't know where I am. I'm disoriented." She got four kids in the car. I went and I picked her up and I couldn't imagine what was wrong. Come to find out they were venting the submarines 800 feet from where we lived. One of my daughters came up with 106 fever and the Hueneme dispensary couldn't find out what happened. They had no idea what caused it. They packed her in ice. My other daughter had a bone missing in her back, and when she gave birth, she had to have a Caesarean. So I have experience on what would happen if this deadly stuff automatically gets into the air.

1 First of all, this is a very bad idea. They say 700 or 70 metric tons. That's only the beginning. They're not telling you about the foreign powers that made arrangements to ship their stuff here, also, so you can double that. But they don't tell you that. So all of a sudden we have a mountain full of nuclear waste -- excuse me. Nuclear material. There's nothing waste about it. The life span of that thing is 10,000 years plus. I've never known anything to be a waste that will have that kind of a life span. Can anyone tell me why they use that word "waste"?

2 I don't want to be brainwashed. I'm brainwashed all the time. They call a cent a penny. It doesn't have the word penny on it. They say I'm middle class. Nothing in the constitution says I'm middle class, working class, low class, no class. There is no class in this country. I'm being brainwashed continually and it's happening now. Because the people in Washington, they don't want it in their backyard. They decided Nevada was not part of the union, so let's dump it in Nevada. Let's put it a hundred miles from Las Vegas. I've been living here twenty-three years and that's what I've got to look forward to?

3 Three years ago the US News and World Report came out with a way of solving the problem. They had mud flats in the Atlantic that go down a thousand feet and they said just drop them down there. It would stay down there and be in the cask and they'll be fine and no one has to worry about it. No. Nobody wanted to do that because the politicians had something else in mind. They should be ashamed of themselves by doing this to us. They created the stuff. They can stick with it, live with it. It don't belong here. It should be dispersed in the first place.

4 What happened to Pearl Harbor? We had the whole fleet there. They bombed there one by one, and they were lined up at Hickam Field, they bombed all of them, and if you go to Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, same thing. They're lined up, boom. It's best to disperse the stuff and don't have it in one basket and I asked them, I asked them here about the caskets. This is the second meeting I've been to. I said are they going to vent the caskets because I know that the rad -- the heat aspects will be 350 degrees, and here you have gamma alpha rays, this thing building up pressure in these containers and they had no way of releasing the pressure. Are you kidding me? There has to be a way to release the pressure, but once they do, that stuff will go through their air tubes out and into your neighborhoods. What's it going to cause? Respiratory problems. That's from the air.

6 Now if it contaminates the water, because they're going to have to use water to cool it. When that water drips down into the water system, then the lower part of your body is going to be involved in it. I mean, what kind of thinking is this? Do they have to have it all in one place. That's ridiculous.

7... The people in Congress should realize what they're doing to this state, what they're doing to this area. If they have one nuclear accident, something leak through under those casings and explodes, Las Vegas will be wiped off the map. Boulder, Hoover Dam won't be here anymore and half of California will be in the

...7 Pacific Ocean at the San Andreas Fault. That's the possibility and the probability if you don't disperse this stuff, and don't park it at one place. It's high-level nuclear material and will devastate the whole area.

8 My home value, I've been living here twenty-three years. If anything happens, my home value is zilch, nothing, nothing. I mean, all this investment are and there's nothing. It is a violation of my civil rights to put this -- excuse me the expression -- crap in my backyard. It is, and I will do something about it if it goes that way. I will go to court. You cannot derive my civil rights and put this stuff where it may cause all kinds of danger. To me, my wife, my children, my grandchildren, my great-grandchildren. They're there.

Now on transportation, we all know what the problem is. They haven't even begun to solve that. What I want to know is: Who do I sue and where do I go to get this thing done? Thank you.